## DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION

FICE	•		Attorney Docket No:_	C259 1020.1
As the below r	named inventor,	I hereby declare that: ess and citizenship are as state		
DEMON!				
My residence,	post office addre	ess and citizenship are as state	d below next to my name.	
I believe:				
$\boxtimes$	I am the origin	al, first and sole inventor	,	
	I am an origina	al, first and joint inventor		
of the subject	matter which is	claimed and for which a pater	it is sought on the invention	n entitled <u>BLADE</u>
FOR A SURG	ICAL DEVICE	AND SURGICAL DEVICE, ti	he specification of which:	
		is attached hereto.		•
	$\overline{\boxtimes}$	was filed on March 31, 2004	as Application Serial No.	<u>10/814,200</u> .
		was filed off ividion 51, 200	as rippiioamon benario.	10,01.,200.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56.

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §119 of any United States provisional patent application, foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and/or any international priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 365 based on the following foreign and/or international application(s) listed below, and also identify below any United States provisional patent application, foreign and/or international application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the above-identified application(s) on which priority is claimed:

Prior Application Number(s)	Country	Filing Date
03 007 538.6	Europe	1 April 2003

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States patent application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56 which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

Prior Application(s) Number(s)	Country	Filing Date

I hereby appoint the following attorneys/agents to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith: LOUIS T. ISAF Reg. No. 29,078; JAMES F. VAUGHAN Reg. No. 31,889; STEVEN D. KERR Reg. No. 32,472; D. SCOTT SUDDERTH Reg. No. 34,026; JOHN J. TIMAR Reg. No. 32,497; STEVEN L. SCHMID Reg. No. 39,358; DAVID J. HAYZER Reg. No. 43,329; DAVID S. BRADIN Reg. No. 37,783; CARL B. MASSEY, JR. Reg. No. 44,224; THOMAS B. MCGURK, Reg. No. 44,920; C. ROBERT RHODES, Reg. No. 24,200; JACK B. HICKS, Reg. No. 34,180; JEFFREY R. MCFADDEN, Reg. No. 46,916; LEWIS S. ROWELL, Reg. No. 45,469; and CRAIG H. POPALIS Reg. No. 49,028; PAUL C. KIMBALL Reg. No. 34,601; IAN A. CALVERT Reg. No. 50,186; KEATS A. QUINALTY Reg. No. 46,426; NANDA K. ALAPATI Reg. 39,893; BARRY S. GOLDSMITH Reg. No. 39,690; JEFFERY B. ARNOLD Reg. No. 39,540; DAVID E. WIGLEY Reg. No. 52,362.

Provided that, should any one of the foregoing individuals cease to be associated with the firm Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice, PLLC, then any powers granted to that person are hereby revoked.

Please address all telephone calls, in the first instance, to Louis T. Isaf at telephone number: (404) 962-7523.

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I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statement and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

First Inventor's	Signature Date:	
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